

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 GUATEM 04879 070054Z

62

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ABF-01 ISO-00 L-03 SS-20 PM-07 A-01 RSC-01

DRC-01 /055 W

----- 057317

R 062225Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4255

INFO AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

C O N F I D E N T I A L GUATEMALA 4879

STADIS////////////////////////////////////

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, GT, AFSP

REF: A. STATE 156627 B. STATE 166452

1. GAO TEAM PRESENTLY IN GUATEMALA SKED AUGUST 19 FOR
(A) GOG'S DEFINITION OF TERM "POLITICAL PRISONER,"
(B) NUMBER AND TYPES OF PRISONS, JAILS AND DETENTION CENTERS
IN GUATEMALA, (C) NUMBER OF POLITICAL PRISONERS IN
PRISONS, JAILS AND DETENTION CENTERS. EMBASSY'S
WRITTEN REPLY AUGUST 28 POINTED OUT GOG WOULD DENY
THERE WERE OR HAD BEEN IN ANY RECENT YEAR ANY POLITICAL
PRISONERS. HOWEVER, PERSONS HAD BEEN ARRESTED UNDER
THIS AND PREVIOUS ADMINISTRATIONS UNDER LAW FOR
DEFENSE OF DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS(LDDI), TRANSLATION
OF WHICH WAS GIVEN GAO. NUMBERS OF VARIOUS TYPES
OF PRISONS WERE FURNISHED. WE SAID THAT IN
SEPTEMBER 1973 THIRTY-THREE PERSONS WERE BEING HELD UNDER
LDDI, BUT WE BELIEVED ALL OF THESE WHO WERE STILL
IN CUSTODY AT TIME OF JUNE 10, 1974 AMNESTY HAD BEEN
RELEASED. BETWEEN JUNE 10 AND AUGUST 28 GUATEMALAN PRESS
HAD REPORTED FIVE ARRESTS UNDER LDDI, BUT WE
BELIEVED ALL THESE HAD BEEN SUBSEQUENTLY RELEASED
AND THAT NO ONE BEING HELD UNDER THAT LAW AS OF AUGUST 28.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 GUATEM 04879 070054Z

2. ON SEPTEMBER 4 TEAM ASKED (A) HAS THERE BEEN ANY

COMMUNICATION BETWEEN DEPARTMENT AND EMBASSY CONCERNING SECTION 32 OF FAA, AND (B) HAS QUESTION OF POLITICAL PRISONERS EVER BEEN DISCUSSED BY EMBASSY WITH GOG. GAO AGAIN REQUESTED WRITTEN REPLY. WE REPLIED SEPTEMBER 5 AS FOLLOWS: (A) YES. TELEGRAM IN APRIL TO EMBASSIES IN ALL AID-RECIPIENT COUNTRIES HAD FURNISHED TEXT OF SECTION 32. TELEGRAM IN JULY HAD INSTRUCTED THESE EMBASSIES TO INFORM HOST GOVERNMENTS OF TEXT. (B) WE HAVE HAD MANY CONVERSATIONS WITH GOG FOR MANY YEARS ON INTERNAL SECURITY SITUATION, INCLUDING TERRORISM OF BOTH EXTREME LEFT AND EXTREME RIGHT, AND INCLUDING NUMBER OF PERSONS UNDER ARREST AND STATUS OF THEIR CASES. OUR APPROACH TO GOG SPECIFICALLY ON SECTION 32, IN COMPLIANCE WITH DEPARTMENT'S JULY INSTRUCTION, WAS MADE BY CHIEF OF POLITICAL SECTION TO VICE FONMIN ON JULY 18. (COPIES OUR AUGUST 28 AND SEPTEMBER 5 MEMOS TO GAO HAVE BEEN AIRPOUCHED TO GUATEMALAN DESK.)

3. ON SEPTEMBER 6 GAO REPRESENTATIVE VANBLARCOM REQUESTED COPIES OF AFOREMENTIONED APRIL AND JULY CABLES AND OF ANY RECORD WE HAD MADE OF CONVERSATION WITH VICE FONMIN. WE SHOWED HIM COPY OF CLASSIFIED MEMCON (ALSO POUCHED DESK) AND ALLOWED HIM TAKE NOTES, BUT DID NOT GIVE HIM COPY. WE TOLD VANBLARCOM WE DID NOT FEEL FREE TO SHOW HIM CABLES, AS THOSE WERE DEPARTMENT-INITIATED, RATHER THAN JUST EMBASSY GUATEMALA DOCUMENTS, AND SUGGESTED HE REFER THAT REQUEST TO DEPARTMENT. HE THEN ASKED FOR CABLE NUMBERS AND WE SUPPLIED THEM (STATE 68545 AND 150955). VANBLARCOM SEEMED APPRECIATE AND BE SATISFIED WITH OUR RESPONSE.

4. TEAM DEPARTING FOR MONTEVIDEO SEPTEMBER 7 ARRIVING MORNING SEPTEMBER 8.
MELOY

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DETENTION, AMNESTY, ITINERARY, CRIME DATA, POLITICAL PRISONERS, PENAL INSTITUTIONS, PRISONERS RELEASE, ARRESTS, PERSONNEL TRAVEL
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 SEP 1974
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: shawdg
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974GUATEM04879
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: DG ALTERED
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740248-0714
From: GUATEMALA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740969/aaaacgqu.tel
Line Count: 96
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: STADIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: STADIS
Reference: A. STATE 156627 B. STATE 166452
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: shawdg
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16 SEP 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <16 SEP 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <26 FEB 2003 by shawdg>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GAO TEAM IN GUATEMALA
TAGS: PINS, AFSP, OTRA, GT, GAO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005